

Where to Turn for Spiritual Care

JEWISH CHAPLAINS ON-CALL

Your Federation is fortunate to have **experienced chaplains** among our professional ranks. Normally these chaplains are deployed to area hospitals and senior living facilities. At this challenging time, and while they continue their regular duties, all of our chaplains are making themselves available to any resident of Greater MetroWest who is feeling spiritual distress and would like a professional ear, a caring heart, and a Jewish *neshama* to talk to.

This offer is made as well to our professional colleagues at Federation and our partner agencies for the same purpose. Please know that all of our chaplains are multi-faith trained.

This service is provided at no charge by your Federation.

A thumbnail bio of each chaplain and their contact information is provided to you for your outreach directly to them. If you would like to contact any chaplain, please text him or her directly to set up an appointment; please do not text on Shabbat.

A DAILY DOSE OF TORAH WITH A SMILE

Our colleague, **Rabbi Menachem Creditor**, the scholar in-residence at UJA-Federation of New York, graciously provides an online “welcome mat” to his home every morning for a few minutes starting at 9 a.m.

Here is the link if you would like to enjoy and benefit from this experience: www.facebook.com/ujafedny/videos

SPIRITUALITY AND MEDITATION

We are pleased to suggest that you visit the **Institute for Jewish Spirituality** for (at least) two helpful resources:

1. Join one of their master teachers as they lead a live daily guided meditation, sharing 30 minutes of Jewish mindfulness with people from around the world. Open to all, no experience needed. 12:30-1 p.m. Monday through Friday.
2. You can also get their free Jewish Meditation Starter kit. Information about both resources can be found here: www.jewishspirituality.org/get-started/resources-for-challenging-times/

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Chaplain Debby Pfeiffer, BCC

Debby is a board-certified chaplain serving at Morristown Medical Center (MMC) three days a week. She was a speech pathologist for 16 years prior to her pastoral training at Hackensack University Medical Center and Palisades Medical Center. Debby works in all areas of MMC as part of the medical team, attending to the emotional, spiritual, and ritual needs of Jewish patients and their families.

debby.pfeiffer@gmail.com

(201) 739-9787 (cell)

(973) 971-5818 (Spiritual Care Dept. in Morristown)

Rabbi Joshua Hess

Serving as rabbi of Anshe Chesed in Linden since 2009, Rabbi Hess is also a chaplain at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston. He has semicha (ordination) from Ner Yisrael, an MA in Pastoral Counseling from the Iliff School of Theology in Denver, and an MA in Jewish History from the Revel School at Yeshiva University.

rabbihess@anshecheded.org

(908) 718-7198 (cell)

Rabbi Alisa Danon

Rabbi Danon is the Jewish Chaplain at Mountainside Medical Center. In addition to her work at Mountainside, she performs pastoral outreach for seniors living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Morris and Essex counties. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from The College of William and Mary, a Masters of Hebrew Letters from the University of Judaism, and a Master of Arts from the Jewish Theological Seminary.

alisa.danonkaplan@gmail.com

(201) 578-4458 (cell)

(201) 357-8420 (home)

Rabbi Henoah Polansky

Rabbi Polansky has served as Chaplain for Lester Senior Housing and Federation Plaza since 2006. In years prior, he worked at Shorefront Jewish Geriatric Center in Brooklyn as Director of Pastoral Care for 24 years, amassing vast experience in serving our elderly. Rabbi Polansky was ordained at the Mirrer Yeshiva Rabbinical College, holds a degree in Pastoral Counseling, and has completed four CPE units (Clinical Pastoral Education).

henpol77@optonline.net

(718) 757-1390 (cell)

Rabbi Stephanie Dickstein, LMSW

Rabbi Dickstein is a chaplain for the Seniors at Home program of Federation's Chaplaincy, primarily providing spiritual care to survivors of the Holocaust. In the past she served as Spiritual Care Coordinator at the Jewish Board of Family and Children's services in New York City, focusing on illness, aging, caregiving, end of life, bereavement, and recovery. Rabbi Dickstein was ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary and holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from JTS and Columbia University.

rabbidickstein@gmail.com

(732) 512-7363 (cell)

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Rabbi Daniel Geretz

Rabbi Geretz is a chaplain at Morristown Medical Center. He served as a community lay leader for many years in Middlesex County and was twice ordained, in 2009 by Yeshivat Pirchei Shoshanim and in 2017 by Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School. Since his ordination, Daniel has served in several informal adult education roles and is the founding rabbi of Maayan, an independent partnership minyan in West Orange.

danny@geretz.org

(732) 266-1214 (cell)

Rabbi David Blum

Providing pastoral care in numerous capacities and settings since 1999, Rabbi Blum currently provides spiritual support to Jewish residents in several senior living facilities in Greater MetroWest. He was ordained by the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (Yeshiva University) in 2001 and has been a NAJC Board-Certified Chaplain (Neshama - the Association of Jewish Chaplains) since 2006.

commack3@aol.com

(732) 421-8455 (cell)

Rabbi David Glicksman

Rabbi Glicksman currently resides in West Orange and, while “officially” retired, provides spiritual care and Oneg Shabbat programs to Jewish residents in Greater MetroWest senior living facilities. He is also a Supervisor in Training, offering clinical pastoral education under the auspices of the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP). Rabbi Glicksman retired from Wilf Campus in 2012 but continued in the pursuit of supervisory training, and part time chaplaincy work.

d.glicksman@yahoo.com

(732) 688-4197 (cell)

Rabbanit Jennifer Kotzer Geretz

Rabbanit Jennifer Kotzker Geretz is a chaplain at St. Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston. She is finishing her final year of Yeshivat Maharat in Riverdale, Bronx, New York, with her ordination scheduled for June 2020. Jennifer grew up in the small Jewish community of Pensacola, Florida, and moved to New Jersey after her graduation from Brandeis University in 1990. A co-founder of East Brunswick’s Yeshivat Netivot Montessori, Jennifer teaches Bar/Bat Mitzvah students and adult classes in addition to her chaplaincy work.

jengeretz@gmail.com

(973) 803-8487 (cell)